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Today Rep. Bruce Braley (D-lowa) announced that the US Department of Labor has awarded a \$17 million grant to the state of lowa to assist with cleanup in the wake of the Flood of 2008 and the May 25th tornado. In the wake of the Memorial Day weekend tornado, Braley joined Senators Harkin and Grassley to send a letter to Department of Labor Secretary Elaine Chao on June 6th supporting lowa's application for the \$17 million grant. Earlier today, Governor Chet Culver outlined his support for the grant. The May 25th tornado and the Flood of 2008 will have a long-lasting impact on thousands of lowans and many lowa communities," Braley said. "When things get tough in lowa, lowans come together and help one another. That's why I joined Senators Grassley and Harkin to support this funding request. I'm pleased that the federal government is providing this critical assistance to lowa communities. "According to the Department of Labor, the grant will be used to provide temporary employment on projects for the clean-up, demolition, repair, renovation, and reconstruction of destroyed public structures, facilities, and lands within counties declared eligible for FEMA public assistance. Therefore, the funds can be used to help cleanup communities impacted by the May 25th tornado or the Flood of 2008.